Wyndham (C.) E. of Egremont
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Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Egremont *to the Earl* Temple.

MY LORD,

THE King having judged it improper, that *John Wilkes*, Esq; should any longer continue to be Colonel of the Militia for the County of *Buckingham*, I am commanded to signify His Majesty's Pleasure to your Lordship, that you do forthwith give the necessary Orders for displacing Mr. *Wilkes*, as an Officer in the Militia for the said County of Buckingham.

I am, with great Respect,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant,

EGREMONT.

Whitehall,
May 4, 1763.

To the Earl Temple.

Letter from the Earl Temple *to* John Wilkes, *Esq;*

SIR,

AT my Return last Night from the Tower, I received the enclosed Letter from the Earl of *Egremont*: In Consequence of his Majesty's Commands therein signfyed, you will please to observe, that you no longer continue Colonel of the Militia for the County of *Buckingham*.

I cannot, at the same Time, help expressing the Concern I feel in the Loss of an Officer, by his Deportment in Command, endeared to the whole Corps.

I am, SIR,

Your most obedient,

And most humble Servant,

TEMPLE.

Pall-Mall,
May 5, 1763.

To John Wilkes, Esq;

Copy of a Letter from John Wilkes, *Esq; to the Earl* Temple.

MY LORD,

I HAVE this Moment the Honour of your Lordship's Letter, signifying his Majesty's Commands, *that I should no longer continue Colonel of the Militia for the County of* Buckingham. I have only to return your Lordship my warmest Thanks for the Spirit and Zeal you have shewn in the Support of that Constitutional Measure from the very Beginning. Your Lordship will please to remember, that I was among the foremost who offered their Services to their Country at that Crisis. *Buckinghamshire* is sensible, and has always acknowledged, that no Man but your Lordship could have given Success to that Measure in our inland County. I am proud of the Testimony your Lordship is pleased to give me, and am happy, in these Days of Peace, to leave so amiable a Corps in that perfect Harmony, which has from the Beginning subsisted.

I have the Honour to be,

With unfeigned Respect,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, and most humble Servant,

JOHN WILKES.

Tower,
May 3, 1763.

To the Earl Temple,

The following Speech was made by JOHN WILKES, *Esq*; *when he was brought to the Bar of the Court of* Common Pleas, *on* Tuesday *the* 3*d of* May.

I FEEL myself happy to be at last brought before a Court, and before Judges, whose Characteristic is the Love of Liberty. I have many humble Thanks to return for the immediate Order you were pleased to issue, to give me an Opportunity of laying my Grievances before you. They are of a Kind hitherto unparalleled in this free Country, and I trust the Consequences will teach Ministers of *Scottish* and arbitrary Principles, that the Liberty of an *English* Subject is not to be sported away with Impunity, in this cruel and despotic Manner.

I am accused of being the Author of the *North Briton*, No. 45. I shall only remark upon that Paper that it takes all Load of Accusation from the sacred Name of a Prince, whose Family I love and honour, as the glorious Defenders of the Cause of Liberty, and whose personal Qualities are so amiable, great, and respectable, that he is deservedly the Idol of his People. It is the peculiar Fashion and Crime of these Times, and of those who hold high ministerial Offices in Government, to throw every odious Charge from themselves upon Majesty. The Author of this Paper, whoever he may be, has, upon constitutional Principles, done directly the reverse, and is therefore in me, the supposed Author, meant to be persecuted accordingly. The particular Cruelties of my Treatment, worse than if I had been a Scots Rebel, this Court will hear, and I dare say, from your Justice, in due Time redress.

I may perhaps still have the Means left me to shew that I have been superior to every Temptation of Corruption. They may indeed have flattered themselves, that when they found *Corruption* could not prevail, *Persecution* might intimidate. I will shew myself superior to both. My *Papers* have been seized, perhaps with a hope the better to deprive me of that Proof of their Meanness, and corrupt Prodigality, which it may possibly, in a proper Place, be yet in my Power to give.